



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
TEL 510.817.5700
TTY/TDD 510.817.5769
FAX 510.817.5848
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Scott Haggerty, Chair
Alameda County

Adrienne J. Tissier, Vice Chair
San Mateo County

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and Urban Development

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MTC PLANNING COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 9, 2011
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Spering called the MTC Planning Committee meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. Planning Committee members in attendance were: Chu, Giacomini, Halsted, Lempert, Mackenzie, Rein-Worth, Rubin, and Yeager. Other Commissioners present as ad hoc members of the Committee were Bates, Cortese, Dodd, Haggerty, Kinsey, and Tissier.

CONSENT CALENDAR: a) Minutes of January 14, 2011; b) Parking Policies for Climate Protection

Chair Spering moved Agenda Item 1c from the consent calendar to the regular agenda for discussion. Commissioner Worth moved approval of the Consent Calendar, Commissioner Chu seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

1c) SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY/REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN: Guidance for Call for Projects

Chair Spering stated that the committee received a letter from the Bay Area Council and several of their counterparts throughout the region regarding the scheduling of the Call for Projects, and requested some clarity from staff.

Mr. Steve Heminger stated that this item was agendized as an information item, and staff is hoping to send out a Call for Projects. He stated that the substance of the letter addresses issues that will be before the committee in March about the committed policy.

Commissioner Mackenzie commented on the Programmatic Categories and stated that some people were wondering why the Community Based Transportation Plans (CBTPs) were not included in programmatic categories. Ms. Ashley Nguyen stated that CBTPs, are included in Programmatic Category Number 2.

Public Comment:

- Ms. Carli Paine, TransForm, expressed her concern on the Call for Projects timeline, which seems too compressed for the counties to do all of their outreach to cities, and urged staff to extend the submission time. She stated that it would be useful to provide guidance for counties on how to screen their proposed project lists in light of the performance measures that have been put together.

Chair Spering motioned to accept the information item. Commissioner Mackenzie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CURRENT REGIONAL PLANS (Projections 2011/Transportation 2035 Plan) RESULTS

Mr. Paul Fassinger, ABAG, stated that the updated Projections 2011 were based on the last ABAG Land Use Forecast Projections 2009 and updated the information with the help from local congestion management agencies and local jurisdictions. It is the starting point for analysis, which is the basis for creation of the Initial Vision Scenario. It reflects current planning and assumptions, but is not designed to meet the targets.

Mr. Fassinger summarized the regional job projections, and noted the reduction in projected employment growth by 205,000 jobs in 2010 and 707,000 jobs in 2035 compared to Projection 2009. He also summarized the Current Regional Plans vs. historical trends, which assumes higher rates of housing construction than seen historically, that results in insufficient affordable housing (historically about 40% of the region's need), and continued commuting growth outside the region.

Mr. David Ory, MTC staff, commented on how the current regional plan scenario addresses green house gas emission targets. He stated that since the targets were set by the Air Resources Board, four key changes have been made: 1) higher bridge tolls were introduced on July 1, 2010; 2) the scope of regional HOT network is reduced; 3) the new transportation forecast model is more sensitive to changes in transit supply, roadway supply, density, and congestion; and 4) updated demographic projections (Projections 2011).

Mr. Ory noted that the Current Plans Scenario is projected to meet the ARB target for reductions in GHG between 2005 and 2020. The Scenario does not meet the target for reductions between 2005 and 2035.

Commissioner Spering asked how staff is projecting the bridge tolls to 2035. Mr. Ory stated there is an inflation factor that is used to make these projections.

Ms. Lisa Klein discussed how the Current Plans scenario performs toward meeting the targets previously adopted by the Commission. She also summarized the SCS development schedule through the rest of this calendar year.

In response to Committee member questions, staff provided the following clarifications:

- How do we sync up the decision-making process to meet the goals? Response: Staff will come back in March with the Initial Vision Scenario, which is expected to perform better than the Current Regional Plans. The Initial Vision Scenario will provide the starting point for discussion on how the region should grow and what transportation investments can support this growth.
- Staff proposes to engage the Committee members, as well as ABAG's Board, in a discussion about a regional economic development strategy. Staff is not only seeing the

effects of the great recession, but a much slower job rate in the future then experienced in the past.

- It may be appropriate to reconsider the transit travel time target since the results don't account for faster transit speeds.
- The Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) do have the analysis tools to assess how the projects they propose for the SCS/RTP address the targets.
- Staff will identify an additional number of housing units that each county would be expected to absorb. There will be more discussion about the numbers throughout this calendar year.

OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 11, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Lawrence D. Dahms Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, Oakland, CA.